

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/657,129 <b>Examiner</b> Allen T Cao	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SOGAWA ET AL. <b>Art Unit</b> 2652
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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to 9/9/03.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6.
3.  The drawings filed on 29 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

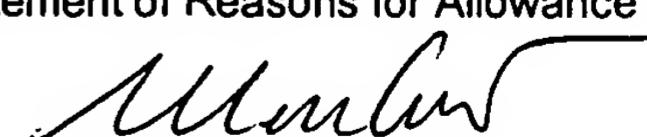
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 9/9/03
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.



Allen Cao  
Primary Examiner

1. Claims 1-6 are allowed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

a) The prior art of record neither discloses nor suggests an optical pickup apparatus having combination limitations of a synthetic resin-made base which a collimator lens and an objective lens are disposed at one end opening of a light passage hole with a half mirror, the base having a mounting surface formed on another end opening of the light passage hole that is penetrating the base; a laser diode disposed in a laser hole communicating with the light passage hole; a resilient plate made of a leaf spring having a first end portion secured to the mounting surface in such a manner as to be height-wise adjustable by an adjusting screw, and a pair of left and right leg portions formed integrally at both side edge portions of a second end portion that is opposite to the first end portion, the leg portions extending toward the first end portion along a horizontal longitudinal direction; and a printed circuit board with a photodiode, the printed circuit board secured to resilient plate while being positioned in the horizontal longitudinal direction and a horizontal transverse direction; wherein laser light is projected from the laser diode onto a disk through the half mirror, the collimator lens, and the objective lens, and reflected light thereof is received by the photodiode through the half mirror, so as to read information recorded on the disk; a support pedestal which is one step higher is integrally formed at an end portion of the mounting surface; a pair of fixing holes are respectively formed in the leg portions in such a

manner as to be provided on a phantom line passing through a central axis of the photodiode and extending in the horizontal transverse direction; a pair of threaded holes are respectively formed in both side edge portions of the mounting surface in face-to-face relation to the fixing holes; an elongated engaging hole is penetrately provided in a tip end portion of one of the leg portions along the horizontal longitudinal direction; an elliptical positioning projection is projectingly provided on one of the side edge portions of the mounting surface in face-to-face relation to the engaging hole; each of the leg portions is positioned on the mounting surface by engaging the positioning projection with the engaging hole; and fixing screws are respectively screwed into the threaded holes through the fixing holes in the leg portions, so as to press the second end portion of the resilient plate against the support pedestal, all as set forth in claim 1.

b) The prior art of record neither discloses nor suggests an optical pickup apparatus having combination limitations of a synthetic resin-made base having a mounting surface formed thereon; a resilient plate having a first end portion secured to the mounting surface in such a manner as to be height-wise adjustable by an adjusting screw, and a pair of left and right leg portions formed integrally at both side edge portions of a second end portion that is opposite to the first end portion, the leg portions extending toward the first end portion along a horizontal longitudinal direction; a printed circuit board with a photodiode, the printed circuit board secured to the resilient plate while being positioned in the horizontal longitudinal direction and horizontal transverse direction; and a laser diode; wherein laser light is projected from the laser diode onto a

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disk, and reflected light thereof is received by the photodiode, so as to read information recorded on the disk; a support pedestal which is one step higher is integrally formed on an end portion of the mounting surface; and a pair of fixing screws are respectively screwed into a pair of threaded holes in the mounting surface through a pair of fixing holes respectively provided penetrately in the leg portions, so as to press the second end portion of the resilient plate against the support pedestal, all as set forth in claim 2.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen T Cao whose telephone number is (571) 272-7569. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs (7:30 - 6:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa T Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Allen Cao  
Primary Examiner

AC  
March 28, 2005